

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the above-captioned application:

Listing of the Claims:

1. (Currently amended): A multi-layer oral dosage form, comprising:

(a) a matrix core comprising a ~~therapeutic~~therapeutically effective amount of a first drug, wherein the matrix core allows sustained release of the first drug;

(b) a first layer, which is in contact with said matrix core, comprising a first portion of a pharmaceutically effective amount of a second drug, wherein the first layer allows sustained release of the second drug; and

(c) a second layer, which is also in contact with said matrix core, comprising a second portion of the second drug, wherein the second layer allows immediate release of the second drug.

2. (Withdrawn): A multi-layer oral dosage form, according to claim 1 further comprising in the first layer an additional amount of the first drug, wherein the first layer allows sustained release of the first and second drugs.

3. (Withdrawn): The multi-layer oral dosage form as defined in claim 1, wherein said matrix core further comprises insoluble polymers and adjuvants.

4. (Withdrawn): The multi-layer oral dosage form as defined in claim 3, wherein said polymers are selected from the group consisting of insoluble cellulosic materials, polyvinyl acetates, polyvinyl alcohols, polyethylene oxides, metacrylates, and non-crosslinked polyvinylpyrrolidone.
5. (Withdrawn): The multi-layer oral dosage form as defined in claim 3, wherein said adjuvants comprise sugars, colloidal silica, calcium diphosphate, talc and magnesium stearate.
6. (Withdrawn): The multi-layer oral dosage form as defined in claim 3, wherein said first layer further comprises water-soluble and/or gel forming polymeric materials.
7. (Withdrawn): The multi-layer oral dosage form as defined in claim 3, wherein said second layer further comprises pharmaceutical acceptable excipients selected from the group consisting of cellulose derivatives, cross-linked polymers, sugars, soluble salts, colorants, fillers, disintegrants, anti-lacking agents and anti-static agents.
8. (Withdrawn): The multi-layer oral dosage form as defined in claim 6, wherein said first layer comprises from about 15 to about 95% of the second drug.
9. (Withdrawn): The multi-layer oral dosage form as defined in claim 7, wherein said second layer comprises from about 5 to about 85% of the second drug.
10. (Withdrawn): The multi-layer oral dosage form as defined in claim 1, wherein said first drug is an NSAID.
11. (Withdrawn): The multi-layer oral dosage form as defined in claim 10, wherein said NSAID consists essentially of diclofenac.

12. (Withdrawn): The multi-layer oral dosage form as defined in claim 11, comprising from about 50 to about 150 mg of diclofenac.
13. (Withdrawn): The multi-layer oral dosage form as defined in claim 12, comprising about 75 mg of diclofenac.
14. (Withdrawn): The multi-layer oral dosage form as defined in claim 10, wherein said NSAID consists essentially of aspirin.
15. (Withdrawn): The multi-layer oral dosage form as defined in claim 12, comprising from about 50 to about 150 mg of aspirin.
16. (Canceled)
17. (Withdrawn): The multi-layer oral dosage form as defined in claim 1, wherein said second drug is an H₂-receptor antagonist.
18. (Withdrawn): The multi-layer oral dosage form as defined in claim 17, wherein said H₂-receptor antagonist consists essentially of famotidine.
19. (Withdrawn): The multi-layer oral dosage form as defined in claim 18, comprising from about 20 to about 60 mg of famotidine.
- 20-27. (Canceled)
28. (Withdrawn): A method for treating and preventing osteoarthritis in patients susceptible to developing NSAID induced gastric and duodenal ulcers comprising administering a multi-layer

oral dosage form as defined in claim 1.

29. (Canceled)

30. (Withdrawn): A method for preparing a multi-layer oral dosage form, comprising:

- (a) preparing a sustained release matrix core comprising a therapeutically effective amount of a first drug or pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof;
- (b) preparing a sustained release blend comprising a first portion of a pharmaceutically effective amount of a second drug or pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof;
- (c) preparing an immediate release blend comprising a second portion of the second drug or pharmaceutical acceptable salts thereof; and
- (d) combining, by compressing, the matrix core of step (a), the sustained release blend of step (b) and the immediate release blend of step (c) such that the sustained release blend and the immediate release blend are in contact with the matrix core.

31-64. (Canceled)